

Board of Contract Appeals

General Services Administration
Washington, D.C. 20405

March 21, 2005

GSBCA 16455-RELO

In the Matter of JAMES N. HERRING, JR.

James N. Herring, Jr., Big Bend National Park, TX, Claimant.

C. Bruce Sheaffer, Comptroller, National Park Service, Washington, DC, appearing for Department of the Interior.

DANIELS, Board Judge (Chairman).

In May and June 2003, James N. Herring, Jr., and his family moved from Denali National Park, Alaska, to Big Bend National Park, Texas. The move was directed by the National Park Service, which had appointed Mr. Herring Chief Ranger at Big Bend National Park.

Later in 2003, Mr. Herring submitted vouchers to the Park Service for travel and transportation expenses and other allowances to which he believed himself entitled as a transferee. The Park Service paid a portion of each of the amounts claimed.

In January 2004, Mr. Herring submitted a third voucher, showing the amounts he believed were still due him, after considering the Park Service's analysis of the previous vouchers. The Park Service refused to review this third voucher.

Mr. Herring then exercised his right to submit his claim to the General Services Board of Contract Appeals for settlement. He continued to assert that the amounts shown on the third voucher were due him.

After protracted proceedings, the Park Service analyzed the claim and agreed to pay virtually all of the amount sought. Mr. Herring responded that after reviewing the agency's response, he is "willing to accept their determination as 'close enough' despite one glaring error."

Mr. Herring's response means that no issue remains for the Board to settle. We consequently dismiss the case.

Mr. Herring continues to assert that the Park Service's Accounting Operations Center behaved in an "unprofessional, disrespectful, and at times rude" way in its dealings with him in this matter. He also asks that the Center apologize to him and his family "for the disrespectful treatment and petty, accusatory posture which they have adopted since day one." These requests are properly directed to management of the Park Service and the Department of the Interior, rather than the Board. Our authority in cases brought by federal civilian employees for relocation expenses incident to transfers of official duty station is to settle monetary claims. We may not conduct management reviews or order agency officials to take actions which do not involve the disbursement of money. *Victor G. Herington*, GSBCA 15914-RELO, 03-1 BCA ¶ 32,187; *see also Eric B. Fort*, GSBCA 16302-TRAV, 04-1 BCA ¶ 32,541 (2003).

STEPHEN M. DANIELS
Board Judge